

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL KENNETH  
O. MCCREEDY

**HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Colonel Kenneth O. McCreedy, Installation Commander at Fort Meade in Maryland. Colonel McCreedy holds a bachelor's degree in history from Washington and Lee University, master's and doctorate degrees from University of California, Berkeley, a Master of Military Arts and Sciences degree from the U.S. Army Command and Staff College, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the Army War College. He is also a graduate of both the Army's School of Advanced Military Studies and the Advanced Strategic Art Program.

After over twenty years in the service, Colonel McCreedy took command of Fort Meade in June 2005. Since then, Colonel McCreedy has worked closely with business leaders and elected officials, to consider how his decisions would affect the communities both inside and outside of the Fort Meade gates.

Fort Meade, located halfway between Baltimore and Washington, DC, is the fourth largest army installation base in the continental United States with approximately 40,000 military, civilian, and contractor personnel. The base thrives not only as a military installation, but also as a leading contributor to Maryland's economy.

Colonel McCreedy has played a large role in planning and preparing for the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process, which will cause a projected 25 percent population increase and 5,700 jobs at Fort Meade alone. He also has worked closely with the Fort Meade Alliance, an advocacy membership organization created to promote and support Fort Meade as an economic asset and resource to the region.

Among his countless awards and decorations, Colonel McCreedy has earned the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and the NATO Medal.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Colonel Kenneth O. McCreedy in his retirement from the position of Fort Meade Installation Commander. His legacy as a brilliant military commander will be forever remembered in his service to one of our nation's largest military installations. It is with great pride that I congratulate Colonel McCreedy on his exemplary military career and his outstanding leadership at Fort Meade.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. CON.  
RES. 70, CONCURRENT RESOLU-  
TION ON THE BUDGET FOR FIS-  
CAL YEAR 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 5, 2008*

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. Con. Res. 70, the Concurrent Budget Resolution Conference Report for 2009. I want to commend Chairman SPRATT for his outstanding work in moving this blueprint for fiscal responsibility to fruition.

This budget is a recipe for fiscal integrity, reaching balance in 2012 while maintaining a smaller deficit in 2009 and over the next 5 years as opposed to the Bush Administration proposal. With the adoption of this budget resolution, this Congress will reject the misplaced priorities of the Administration by restoring funding to vital programs for our Nation's citizens.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, I have been an ardent supporter of the Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program, LIHEAP, and I am particularly pleased that this budget takes significant and necessary steps to strengthen the safety-net for those families most in need, including boosting funding for home energy assistance to help millions of low-income families and funding housing assistance for low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled.

I am further pleased that we increase funding to make college more affordable, thereby reversing the Administration's underfunding of education in our Nation. This budget substantially increases veterans' funding, invests in renewable energy and energy efficiency initiatives, provides funding for green collar jobs, rejects the Administration's cuts to Medicare and Medicaid, expands children's health insurance coverage and accommodates additional middle class tax relief.

Mr. Speaker, S. Con. Res. 70 will serve as an important guide as we set spending priorities for our Nation over the next few years and I am pleased to join in support of it.

CELEBRATING FRANKLIN COUNTY,  
NEW YORK'S BICENTENNIAL

**HON. JOHN M. MCHUGH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to the fine people of Franklin County, New York, as they celebrate the county's bicentennial. I am proud to represent them and to have the opportunity to take a moment to reflect upon the county's characteristics and rich history, which includes the War of 1812 and the Underground Railroad.

Franklin County was formed on March 11, 1808, from Clinton County, when it became apparent that travel to Plattsburgh to conduct legal business was too burdensome. Franklin County, which encompasses 1,631.49 square miles, was named after Benjamin Franklin. Its neighbors are Quebec, Canada to the north, Clinton County to the east, Essex and Hamilton Counties to the south, and St. Lawrence County to the west. Franklin County's nearly 51,000 residents live in 19 townships: Bangor, Bellmont, Bombay, Brandon, Brighton, Burke, Chateaugay, Constable, Dickinson, Duane, Fort Covington, Franklin, Harrietstown, Malone, Moira, Santa Clara, Tupper Lake, Waverly, and Westville. In addition to the County seat, Malone, Franklin County is home to five other villages: Brushton, Burke, Chateaugay, Saranac Lake, and Tupper Lake.

Potash production was the earliest industry in the county; other early industries included agriculture, iron ore mining, logging, mills, sanitariums, and tourism. Today, agriculture continues to play a vital part in the county's economy; in 2002, Franklin County's 530 farms produced agricultural products with a market value of about \$48 million including dairy, cattle and calves, vegetables, aquaculture, and nursery and greenhouse. Likewise, the world class Trudeau Institute, which was originally founded in 1884 as a tuberculosis sanitarium, is still making breakthrough discoveries to improve human health as the incredible Adirondack Mountains continue to draw tourists who enjoy bird-watching, camping, canoeing, fishing, hiking, hunting, and other outdoor activities.

Franklin County's residents are known to be generous, independent, proud, resourceful, and resilient. Perhaps its most notable native son is William Almon Wheeler, who was born in Malone on June 30, 1819, and was elected as our nation's Vice President in 1876 after serving as District Attorney, State Assemblyman, State Senator, and U.S. Representative. Other noteworthy former residents include Tom Browning, who pitched a perfect game and won a World Series game for the Cincinnati Reds, and Almanzo Wilder, whose boyhood on a Burke farm later became known to the world through *Farmer Boy*, which was written by his wife, Laura Ingalls Wilder. Again, it is a great honor to have the opportunity to join with the residents of Franklin County, New York, as they celebrate their bicentennial.

HONORING ANTHONY BORBA

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Anthony Borba upon his retirement as the superintendent of Salida Unified School District. Superintendent Borba will be honored at a reception on May 31, 2008.

Superintendent Anthony Borba graduated from California State University, Stanislaus, in

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

1975 with a bachelor's of arts degree in Spanish, a minor in political science and a California elementary teaching credential. Immediately after completing college, he taught at Tuolumne School for 3 years. It was during this time he spent a summer at the University of California, Santa Barbara, completing an intensive Portuguese study program. This program allowed Superintendent Borba to become a language program facilitator for the Office of Merced County Superintendent of Schools. As he completed additional educational programs he was able to advance through the ranks of the school districts. In 1980, Superintendent Borba earned a masters of arts degree in school administration from California State University, Stanislaus. In 2003 he earned an educational doctorate in education administration from University of the Pacific.

Superintendent Borba worked for the Office of Merced County Superintendent of Schools as a language program facilitator for 4 years. He then taught and became the assistant principal at Selima Herndon School. After just 2 years, he became principal of the school. He served as principal for 4 years. In 1988 he became the director of instructional services and staff development for the Merced City School District. Two years later, he was a superintendent. He served as a superintendent for two districts, Chatom Union Elementary School District and Salida Union School District. In addition to his employment with the schools, Superintendent Borba was also a part-time English-as-a-second language teacher at Modesto Junior College, he worked with the California State Department of Education as a facilitator for Portuguese and Asian minority languages group. He was the principal at a migrant summer school and has been an adjunct faculty member at California State University, Stanislaus, in the Department of Advanced Studies. Superintendent Borba is retiring to become an associate professor for advanced studies at the university.

Superintendent Borba has been, and continues to be, involved in numerous organizations. A few of the organizations include: community advisory board for the doctoral program in instructional leadership at California State University, Stanislaus; he is a member of three doctoral dissertation committees for University of the Pacific; Central Regions Schools Insurance Group; Superintendents' Council of Stanislaus County; Association of Low Wealth Schools; and Stanislaus County Superintendents of Schools. Superintendent Borba has been awarded with the Educator of the Year Award in 1998 by the Portuguese Chamber of Commerce in San Jose, Outstanding Alumnus Award in 1999 by the Professional Administrative Services Credential Program at California State University, Stanislaus, the Outstanding Vocational Award for 2000–2001 by the Rotary Club of Salida; the Ethics in Public Service Award in 2007 by the Modesto Bee and California State University, Stanislaus; and the Educator of the Year Award in 2007 by the Portuguese Education Foundation for central California.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Superintendent Anthony Borba upon his achievements and retirement from Salida Unified School District. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Superintendent Borba many years of continued success.

## CONGRATULATING MICHAEL J. MOCEK ON HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate Mr. Michael J. Mocek on his upcoming retirement and thank him for his 37 years of Federal service to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the State of Texas, and our Nation.

Mike has a long and distinguished history with the Corps of Engineers. Most of his Corps service has been with the Fort Worth Engineer District, where he served the last 12 years as the senior civilian and as the deputy district engineer and the chief of the Programs and Project Management Division.

Among his many significant accomplishments in Texas was the successful completion of Jim Chapman and Ray Roberts Lakes in the 1980s. Mike's technical expertise and planning efforts on those projects provided those communities with vital flood protection and water supply. He also played an invaluable role in the successful approval of the Dallas Floodway Extension project, currently under construction, which will greatly improve the flood protection for that city.

In recent years, Mike has been instrumental in getting Corps approval for one of my top priorities, the Central City Project in Fort Worth. This project will revitalize a portion of the downtown area and provide much needed recreation and park lands, ecosystem restoration, and future flood protection for our citizens. In addition, Mike has provided exceptional leadership for the Corps of Engineers in developing a partnership with the Texas Water Development Board to improve cooperation between the State and Federal government for water resource projects to meet the State's future water needs.

Mike has also guided and overseen the management of one of the largest and most challenging military programs in the Corps, supporting flag ship installations such as Fort Hood, Fort Bliss, and Fort Sam Houston, as well as Lackland and Dyess Air Force Bases. His extraordinary leadership, dedication, and commitment led to the successful completion of many projects that have greatly improved the readiness of our forces and the quality of life for our soldiers, airmen and their families. He did all of this while concurrently serving in the Army Reserves, and retired at the rank of lieutenant colonel.

In 2005, Mike was selected as the top civilian for the Corps of Engineers for achieving the highest overall standards of excellence and for his many significant contributions to the missions, prestige and reputation of the entire Corps. He was very deserving of this honor.

He has mentored many senior military officers and continues to be sought out for his expertise, wise counsel, and advice. Though he received many offers for senior executive promotions throughout the years that would have taken him from Texas, Mike elected to remain in his home State where he felt his efforts would best serve his fellow Texans.

In the Fort Worth community, Mike has been a well-known and trusted leader and public servant. Both he and his wife, Betty,

have served their community well. As an ordained deacon at Holy Family Catholic Church, he provides counsel and spiritual guidance to those who seek it. Betty has taught elementary school students for many years and is currently teaching 4th grade at Tanglewood Elementary School in Fort Worth.

I am indeed honored to have worked with Mike over the last several years as a Member of Congress, and before that as mayor of Fort Worth. I appreciate Mike's long, dedicated, and faithful service to the Fort Worth community, the State of Texas and our Nation. I wish him all the best in his retirement.

## HONORING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA ART GALLERY

### HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the 10th anniversary of the Brooksville Art Gallery. Conceived of by two community stalwarts, Mary Alice Queiros and Karen Phillips, 10 years ago this month, the gallery has been an artistic pillar of the community for its entire existence.

Following the completion of Brooksville City Hall in 1996, Clerk of the Court Karen Phillips and longtime champion of the arts Mary Alice Queiros looked for ways to brighten the hallways and fill much of the empty space. Starting in 1998, they reached out to the Hernando County community to find examples of outstanding art from local residents. One painting at a time, they slowly but surely covered the hallways and walls with fine examples of Florida artistry.

Once the bare walls of city hall were filled with bright and beautiful artwork, the duo worked to make the area friendly to other forms of art, including poetry readings and sculpture. Today, Brooksville City Hall hosts an annual fall art show to showcase the work of area artisans. I also sponsor the annual congressional art competition, a contest for Fifth District high school artists to display their finest artwork and compete to have their piece hung in the United States Capitol. With hundreds of students exhibiting in city hall, Hernando County residents have truly been exposed to some of the finest artwork in our State.

In addition to their love of art, both Mary Alice and Karen have been involved in the Brooksville community for many years. Karen Phillips has given back through her long service as Brooksville City Clerk, and Mary Alice has been honored as the 2005 Great Brooksvillian for her work on behalf of the greater community. Both these women have done so much to promote art in Hernando County, and deserve to be recognized for their dedication and commitment. I would like to congratulate them both on making the Brooksville City Hall Art Gallery a haven for artists and a beautiful addition to our city government building.

IN HONOR OF FRANK THOMPSON

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Frank Thompson, who passed away last week. Thompson served as a code talker in World War II. He and other Navajo soldiers used their native language to craft a nearly unbreakable code. We don't know how many American soldiers survived that war because of Thompson's gift, nor do we know how many civilians were liberated because Thompson and his fellow code talkers helped America achieve success. What we do know is that Thompson and others like him are owed a debt of gratitude we will never fully pay back.

With all of the injustice that Native Americans have experienced at the hands of the U.S. Government, they have always given their all to defend this country. When Thompson joined the Marine Corps, the U.S. Government had only recognized Indians as American citizens for 18 years. Yet 45,000 of the 350,000 Native Americans in this country joined Thompson in America's Armed Forces during that conflict. Native Americans have the highest rate of service of any ethnic group, and today there are more than 181,000 Native American veterans.

The code talkers brought unique skills and a unique cultural heritage to the Allied cause in World War II. As Americans who faced bigotry and injustice, they eagerly signed up to free Europe from oppression. As individuals who had lived with the legacy of aggression against their people, they felt keenly the need to prevent other acts of aggression, even if these acts were being perpetrated on the other side of the world. In a sense, the Allied fight against tyranny was as much a Navajo struggle as a European one. The values of the Navajo soldiers played a crucial role in liberating Europe and Asia.

Code talkers like Frank Thompson showed that courage has no color. Our respect for their service is increased by our recognition that they risked everything for a nation that too often failed to show them the same loyalty. Their actions should remind us that when we treat any group of Americans as second class citizens we dishonor the memory of all those brave soldiers who died to defend American values, including that sacred creed that "all men are created equal."

By recognizing those who have bravely served this country, we encourage ourselves to be just a little bit better. We remind ourselves to celebrate the values that make America a beacon of hope to men and women around the world. Today, I recognize Frank Thompson. His heroism has won him immortality. For his service and his sacrifice, he will live forever in our hearts.

RECOGNIZING THE HEALTHY LAKES, HEALTHY LIVES CAMPAIGN

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Healthy Lakes, Healthy Lives tour. The Healthy Lakes, Healthy Lives tour, organized by the Healing our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition, is designed to raise awareness and call for action on the problems facing our lakes. Healing Our Waters is lead by the National Wildlife Federation and the National Parks Conservation Association and includes over 100 fishing, boating hunting, birding, conservation and environmental organizations. I would like to congratulate them for their continuing work to improve the health of the Great Lakes.

To start the historic tour, the *Earth Voyager*, one of the fastest sailing vessels on the Great Lakes, made its first stop in Buffalo, New York at the newly developed site along the historic Erie Canal. As a main water route to the mid-West the Great Lakes shaped the demographics of our nation. When the Erie Canal first opened in 1825 it connected the East to the Great Lakes and brought a surge in population and commerce which lead Buffalo to incorporate as a city in 1832. Buffalo's strategic position on the Great Lakes contributed significantly to its early rise to prominence; at the turn of the last century Buffalo was America's largest inland port and the leader in the transshipment of grain and several other commodities. The Western New York Division of Citizens Campaign for the Environment helped lead coordination of events during the *Earth Voyager's* 5 day stop in Buffalo, NY.

Containing over twenty percent of the world's fresh water, the Great Lakes are an enormous natural asset to this nation. Nearly two centuries ago the Lakes shaped this nation by providing for the early movement of settlers and commerce in America. Now we are at a critical point in history where we must take action today to protect and preserve the Great Lakes as a means to shape this nation's environmental and economic future.

The ship departs Buffalo, NY for stops in Erie, PA, Toledo, OH, Detroit MI, Port Huron MI, Sarnia, Ontario, Chicago, IL, Traverse City, MI, Grand Haven, MI, Milwaukee, WI, Bay City MI, Cleveland, OH and Rochester, NY. On its tour, the *Earth Voyager* will help carry our message and emphasize the importance of revitalizing the Great Lakes.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL  
BRUCE F. TUXILL**HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Major General Bruce F. Tuxill, Adjutant General for the State of Maryland. After graduating in 1967 from Salem College in West Virginia with a bachelor's degree in business administration, General Tuxill underwent undergraduate pilot train-

ing at Williams Air Force Base in Arizona. For the next fourteen years, General Tuxill rose through the ranks at the Martin State Airport in Maryland. From 1994 until 2000, he served as the assistant adjutant general for air, Headquarters, Maryland Air National Guard in Baltimore. He then served as the Air National Guard assistant to the Commander of the United States Air Forces Europe in Germany until he was appointed Adjutant General for the State of Maryland in 2003.

In his role as Adjutant General, General Tuxill was responsible for formulating, developing and coordinating all policies, programs, and plans affecting more than nine thousand men and women in Maryland's military department. The military department includes the Maryland Army National Guard, Maryland Air National Guard, Maryland Emergency Management Agency and the Maryland Defense Force. In the event of mobilization, if the state were to receive a presidential call to duty in times of war, national emergency, or operational contingency, General Tuxill would exercise command responsibilities and provide a force in readiness. As the Adjutant General, he served as the official liaison between the governor and the National Guard Bureau, and served as a member of the governor's cabinet.

Among his countless awards and decorations, General Tuxill has earned the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Combat Readiness Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, State of Maryland Distinguished Service Cross, Meritorious Service Cross, and Commendation Medal.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Major General Bruce Tuxill in his retirement from the position of Adjutant General for the State of Maryland. His legacy as an experienced and capable military leader and his service to the State of Maryland will be forever remembered. It is with great pride that I congratulate General Tuxill on his exemplary military career and his outstanding leadership of Maryland's military department.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, unfortunately I have been out on medical leave. I have been unable to cast votes; however, I would like the record to reflect my intentions had I been present to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 387, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 386, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 385, I would have voted "nay." Had I been present for rollcall No. 384, I would have voted "nay." Had I been present for rollcall No. 383, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 382, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 381, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 380, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 379, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 378, I would have voted "nay." Had I been present for rollcall No. 377, I

would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 376, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 375, I would have voted "nay." Had I been present for rollcall No. 374, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 373, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 372, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 371, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 370, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 369, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 368, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present for rollcall No. 367, I would have voted "aye."

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE HOME OFFICE DEDUCTION SIMPLIFICATION ACT OF 2008

**HON. JOHN M. McHUGH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation, the Home Office Deduction Simplification Act of 2008, which is designed to reduce the complexity of the tax code and provide Americans with the ability to take a standard deduction for home office expenses.

The tax code currently allows a deduction for home office expenses for self-employed taxpayers and employees who must use their home for business purposes at their employer's request. However, according to the Internal Revenue Service's Office of the Taxpayer Advocate, only 2.7 million of the nearly 20 million Schedule C filers in tax year 2003 took a deduction for home office expenses, despite the fact that some 8.4 million Americans indicated they had one or more rooms used only for business.

The Office of Taxpayer Advocate reports that the data raises the question as to whether or not eligible taxpayers are taking the deduction to which they are entitled. In addition, the Taxpayer Advocate notes that private industry has indicated that the rules and related forms regarding the home office deduction are too complex.

As is often noted, our Nation's nearly 27 million small businesses are the backbone of our Nation's economy. They provide 51 percent of our Nation's private sector employment and 45 percent of its payroll and produce approximately 50 percent of the Nation's private, nonfarm GDP. Without question, they certainly are vital to the economy of New York's 23rd Congressional District, which I have the privilege of representing.

To ensure that my constituents and those other Americans who are eligible to deduct home office expenses but have been deterred by the complexity of the current tax code actually take a deduction, I now introduce the Home Office Deduction Simplification Act. This bill would provide a standard deduction of \$1,500, indexed to inflation, for home office expenses. Accordingly, I ask my colleagues to join with me to enact this important measure.

HONORING ROSTEEN STRASSNER

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rosteen Strassner upon her 106 birthday. Mrs. Strassner's birthday will be celebrated on Friday, June 6, 2008.

Mrs. Strassner was born March 20, 1902 in Newark, Arkansas. In her long life she has witnessed many historical events that not only shaped the United States, but the world as well. She has been able to achieve amazing things in her lifetime. In 1940 she moved to Fresno, California. She became a member of the Fresno Temple COGIC, and remains a member of the church. In 1974 Mrs. Strassner opened her heart and her home to mentally challenged adults when the Central Valley Regional Center was recruiting foster parents. She was one of the first African-Americans to engage in this type of work. She remained a foster parent until 2005, when her physical health began to decline. Mrs. Strassner also has an extensive background as a healthcare professional and businesswoman. She is a retired dietitian from St. Agnes Hospital. She also owned and operated two cafés in the Fresno area.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Rosteen Strassner on 106 years of life. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mrs. Strassner health and happiness.

#### HONORING THE USS PONCHATOU- LA SHIPMATES ASSOCIATION

**HON. JOE SESTAK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2008 gathering of the USS Ponchatoula Shipmates Association. As these remarkable Sailors, their families and friends spend time together this week, they represent over sixty years of dedication to the Navy's core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment.

These patriotic Americans keep alive the memory of their courageous predecessors who sailed into harms way aboard namesakes of USS *Ponchatoula* from 1944 until 1992. In that timeframe Sailors of that proud ship fought in WWII, the Vietnam War, the Cold War and other crises around the world. It is important that we all pause to imagine the courage and stamina it took to sail AOG-38 almost immediately from shakedown cruise into the battle of Okinawa. Carrying over a thousand tons of highly flammable fuel and limited to a maximum speed of ten (10) knots, the crew of only 62 brave souls spent days defending their precious cargo, and one another so that innumerable ships and small craft could support the invasion of Okinawa. All the while they knew that a torpedo, Kamikaze attack, or a simple electrical or propulsion fire could cause their ship and all on-board to be quickly lost in a conflagration of the most devastating form. With her mission complete AOG-38 got underway 14 Decem-

ber 1945 to transit home to the United States for deactivation.

Thankfully, it is a custom of our great Navy to reward the courageous performance of a ship and crew in combat by renaming a successor to that ship. And so it was, when USS *Ponchatoula* (AOG-38 and later T-AO-148) was built by proud craftsmen, some no doubt from the 7th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, in Camden, NJ and commissioned in January 1956. From 1956 until 1992 new generations of U.S. Navy Sailors and Military Sealift Command Mariners served proudly over most of the globe in supporting the ever expanding striking power of our naval forces.

In my thirty-one years of naval service, I was often reminded that "tactics are for amateurs and logistics are for experts." It has been ships and crews like the USS *Ponchatoula* who have been the foundation of our nation's sea power by affording naval commanders and planners the logistics, mobility, flexibility and persistence necessary to win every engagement and deter many more.

Madam Speaker it gives me great pleasure to acknowledge the efforts of my constituent and Navy Veteran, Mr. John J. Bury of Media, PA and the officers of the USS *Ponchatoula* Shipmates Association for their commitment to their ship, one another and the future Sailors who will answer our nation's call to go down to the sea in defense of our precious freedoms.

To the USS *Ponchatoula* Shipmates Association our nation says "Bravo Zulu" and God Speed.

#### RECOGNIZING VICTORIA MANFREDI ON HER RETIREMENT

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Victoria Manfredi on the occasion of her retirement from St. Louis de Montfort School in Oak Lawn, Illinois. An outstanding educator and a resident of Oak Lawn, Illinois, Vicky now celebrates over 35 years of involvement in her school and community.

Today, with the support of family: Frank, Lisa, John, and Anna Victoria, we honor Vicky for her outstanding contribution to the field of Catholic education. Over the past 35 years, Mrs. Manfredi has proven a trusted colleague, an active volunteer, a Christian role model, and a teacher who has opened hearts, touched lives, and enlightened the young minds of countless students.

Vicky Manfredi began her work while her daughter attended St. Louis de Montfort over 30 years ago. Vicky served as a volunteer coach, instructional aide, and Eucharistic minister. Seven years ago, Vicky accepted a new challenge: working as a kindergarten teacher. In her new role she earned the praise of the administration, colleagues, parents and students alike. Her classroom was a happy place, a safe haven for children and an environment where students excelled academically.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Mrs. Victoria Manfredi, an exceptional teacher and pillar in my community. I am honored to

have such an exceptional educator in my district. We offer heartfelt congratulations to Vicky for a job well done as we wish Vicky and her family a joyous celebration of this milestone as she begins a new chapter in her life.

RECOGNIZING THE 2008  
EXPLORAVISION AWARD WINNERS

**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate Timothy Zako, Enzo Fantin-Yusta, and Ahsan Mahmood for their outstanding performance in the 2008 ExploraVision Award. These seventh graders from West Hills Middle School in West Bloomfield, Michigan, along with their coaches Paul Sanchez and Amy Burke embody the innovative spirit of America. Together this team succeeded in capturing second place in this prestigious regional competition.

The ExploraVision Awards, which are sponsored by Toshiba and the National Science Teachers Association, are awarded to students of all ages for combining their imaginations with the tools of science to create and explore a vision of tomorrow's technology. Students of different interest, ability, and skill levels develop new technologies utilizing their creative thinking and problem solving skills.

The students from West Hills Middle School sought out to find a new method for treating lazy eye and strabismus, a condition where ones' eyes are misaligned. These conditions, which affect roughly four percent of children in America, are often treated with eye-patches or in some instances surgery. These treatments limit the activities that children can participate in, can lower the child's self esteem, and in the most severe cases require extremely invasive surgery.

Utilizing existing technologies, the students were able to develop a prototype that could be worn like eyeglasses, and could be turned on and off as needed so that the child could use both eyes together and see in three dimensions at least some of the time. The Strabismus Glasses, as they named them, would help a child's self-esteem by allowing them to treat their condition without having to use an eye-patch.

Madam Speaker, I wish to congratulate these students for their amazing and creative work. I am proud of the initiative these young people have shown. Theirs is a shining example of what we are all capable of achieving with just a little imagination and some hard work.

ONE WORLD NOW

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

WHAT I CAN DO

(By Philmon Haile)

First of all I would like to thank Kirstin Hayden and all of the One World Now folks

for inviting me to speak here today; and for bringing me home from our nation's capitol.

When I was a younger man I dreamt I could change the world. However, as I grew older and wiser I realized that the world was too big and immovable and would not change. Consequently, I decided to take on a narrower target and change my country. However, as I grew older and wiser, I realized my country was too big, too fixed in its way of doing things, immovable and would not change. I therefore decided to address my city and community. However, once again as I grew older and wiser I realized that my city and community were too large and immovable and would not change. So, I decided that one last time I would try and change those nearest to me: my friends and family. But, as I had learned so many times before, those nearest to me—my friends and family—would not change. The problems I saw in the world included violence, intolerance, and racism. Broken and divided schools and cities, racial slurs, being spoken and glorified through the media. Growing up I heard phrases like “you're not black enough”, to any African-American who stepped outside the circle and made white friends and listened to any other music other than Rap, or played any other sports besides basketball. I think “you're not black enough” is just another way to say you don't have sufficient hate for others. If being black means to hate, then I would rather be green. Of course this isn't what it means to be black. I've heard of genocide and gang violence. When I was born, my home country Eritrea had just finished a thirty-year war for independence from Ethiopia. A war is still going on today between the two countries, with a tense border conflict plaguing the people. I am close to this war because both parents were involved in it, a facet of my personal and family history. These problems are so real to me I pray every night for the safety of grandparents, who—as I speak—continue to live in a war torn country run by a dictator. Because these issues are so real, I spend a lot of time thinking about why this happens.

I found the problem. People hurt each other because they had no idea what it felt to be the other party. I knew the answer too, and I thought the best way to end all of this was through education; uniting people through education; giving them a chance to learn about each other so they can coexist peacefully.

Now, as I stand here, old and tired at the ripe old age of 17, I finally get it. Perhaps if I abolished my own stereotypes, I could have impacted my friends and family. Their change in turn may have influenced more people and could have changed my city and community and—who knows—maybe even my country and the world: a ripple effect like a pebble in the pond.

Let's be honest with ourselves—anyone who grows in this world has certain established mind sets and we all need to tear them down before we can progress and accept people for who they are.

In order to be a successful leader, one must be willing to give up certain ideas, decisions and a degree of popularity in order to negotiate, mediate and decide what is in the best interest of the whole. The persona you create around you is how people perceive you. Without a positive attitude I've learned the ability to lead others confidently and work together is greatly diminished. Qualities of tolerance, openness, and optimism are what One World Now represents and instills in all their students, qualities that will reside and resonate forever.

When I came to Garfield High School, I never thought that I could take Chinese especially for free, or much less use those skills and afford to study abroad. You know,

my brother studied abroad just as I hope to. I know my family couldn't afford to send both my brother and me abroad. I know this is the case for many other people traveling on a One World Now! Scholarship. After my older brother, Robel discovered One World Now! I wanted to do it. We have a “typical” older-younger brother relationship, so he tells me that only upper classmen can be involved, so being the gullible freshman I was, I believed him, only to learn my sophomore year that freshmen were enrolled in One World Now! classes. It is amazing what One World Now! is doing, offering high school students classes in the two most critical world languages: Arabic and Chinese. Believe me, in my position as a Congressional Page, I hear about the Middle East and China in debates almost every day. If our leaders knew Chinese and Arabic and understood their cultures, this world would be a much different place. If they could have been involved in One World Now, they would have a better understanding. One World Now is more than just Chinese and Arabic classes and the free food at Friday leadership meetings: it is a melting pot—a place where I was exposed to many different cultures, races, and religions; a place where I made many good friends. Every week that I went to One World Now classes, I grew a little bit. I sometimes got tired of them saying “get out of your comfort zone” and “be passionate”, but that was what really happened, at every meeting I felt I was stripped of all the walls I put up and just showed the bare and true Philmon. That's how you really gain social skills and grow as a person. There are so many different types of people you don't know how to act, so just act like yourself. That's how you really build character. The change that has occurred in me is something I can't describe, something deep within has changed. I am now able to communicate my ideas better, more powerfully. The only thing I can't communicate is the change that has occurred because it so deep within me, but resonates and I can always feel it. This is all because of One World Now and the opportunities offered me from their influence. Through One World Now, I've really walked a thousand miles. I am a different person than when I was a sophomore.

When I was invited to be a U.S. House of Representatives Page and I accepted, I felt both sad and happy. The sadness came when I realized I would not be able to take One World Now classes every other day. Before I accepted, I went to the One World Now office and asked how this would affect my membership at One World Now. They told me that I will always be a part of the One World Now family, and that I could even apply to go to China with them this summer. I came to DC sad that I wouldn't be able to take Chinese in a formal Chinese class setting provided by One World Now, but I was determined I would not give up. I found the Chinese Cultural Center, and learned I could take Chinese there. So I went over there and they asked questions like “how long have you been taking Chinese?” and I told them one year, so they gave their second year test because they only offered up to Chinese level the level I should have been at. I took the test and they told me that I was too advanced to take their classes, so Teacher Sun (find her in the audience) if you're in the room, you taught me well. So I decided to become a volunteer and asked if they could only speak to me in Chinese. While in DC I still called my old Chinese classmates and teacher, to make sure I was caught up to where I needed to be. I was now ready to reap the benefits of the Congressional Page program.

In this program I am able watch the debates of our country's architects. I think it

is a blessing to watch the people who serve our country pass legislation. I have a newfound respect for the Congress of this nation. This program is perfect for me. Young people are asked what they want to be when they grow up, and I always had no idea, so I would fabricate one of the many formulated answers and say something like a doctor or a lawyer, not really knowing exactly what I was saying. Now I think I know. Just like Members of Congress, I want to devote my life to service and make a difference in the world. I would to be an Ambassador and work with different institutions around the world to make a change. Change to bring my home country of Eritrea, and bring its people, my people out of the straggling chokehold of poverty, to bring peace to the border conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia. People of these countries are the same: they share the same religion, culture, and values, divided only by politics.

A quote from George Bernard Shaw describes exactly how I feel:

"This is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one: the being a force of nature instead of a feverish selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy. I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I can live it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for harder I work the more I live, I rejoice in life for its sake".

All this would not be possible without One World Now. Ms. Kristin Hayden nominated me to Congressman Jim McDermott, Democrat from the Seventh Congressional District of Washington State. When I was lucky enough to get into the program, I was then one of ten Pages selected to stay for a second semester to be a role model for the new Pages who were coming in for the Spring Session.

While in DC, I have thought about my summer a great deal. I would like to travel to China on a One World Now scholarship. I know this will be a fantastic. I am truly excited about traveling this summer. I will never forget what One World Now scholarships have offered me. Opportunities like these don't come every day, and One World Now isn't just an every day occurrence. I can guarantee you that Kirstin Hayden is talented and passionate; able to speak Russian and being a great entrepreneur that started this extraordinary program from scratch.

This program started five years ago at Ingram High School, with one language, Chinese, and twelve students. Now this program has extended itself to Garfield, Cleveland, Roosevelt, Rainier Beach, and Franklin High Schools—six different schools! I hope that it can continue to spread and impact many other high school students and make the difference in their lives as it has made in my life.

This reminds me of an anecdote. It is about a young man who tries to make a difference in the world:

It was high tide and there were thousands of Starfishes washed up ashore, and a man saw a young man throwing star fish back into the sea, and asked

"What are you doing?"

The young man paused, looked up and replied, "Throwing Starfish back into the ocean."

"I guess I should have asked; why are you are throwing Starfish into the ocean?" said the bystander.

"The sun is up and the tide is going out and if I don't throw them in they'll die."

The young man said,

"But don't you realize that there are miles and miles of beach and Starfish all along it, you can't possibly make a difference!"

The young man listened politely, then bent down, picked up another Starfish and threw it into the sea, past the breaking waves. "It made a difference for that one."

One World Now is the young man making a difference in students' lives. I am an example of that difference being made. And guess what? I am going to make a difference in others lives also. One World Now makes its difference in a very unique way, I think this is why One World Now is so great! It empowers those, like me, who have found their commitment in life. One World Now is worth supporting. One World Now is worth attending. It's lasting legacy, it's gifts to Seattle and to the Nation, are the gifts of students like me. As I grow older and wiser, I realize that the more I serve my community, I change myself for the better, and I am also changing the world.

#### INTRODUCTION OF H.J. RES. 90, COMMENDING THE BARTER THEATRE ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. BOUCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution commending the Barter Theatre on the occasion of its 75th anniversary. It is the longest continuously functioning live stage theater in the U.S.

The Barter Theatre is located in my hometown of Abingdon, Virginia. It was founded in 1933. In the midst of the Great Depression, money was difficult to obtain, and families were reluctant to use it on such a luxury as a theater performance. Yet founder Robert Porterfield offered a novel solution: Patrons could view live theater performances in exchange for fresh produce or livestock. This successful "ham for Hamlet" arrangement inspired the name, "Barter Theatre."

In its 75 years of existence, the Barter Theatre has established itself as a favorite destination for regional, national, and international visitors. Its popularity prompted the Virginia General Assembly in 1946 to designate the Barter Theatre as the State Theater of Virginia.

As a premiere tourist attraction in southwest Virginia, the theatre makes a significant economic and cultural contribution to the region. The town of Abingdon and its surrounding localities benefit from the theatre's ability to attract more than 145,000 guests annually to its productions.

The Barter Theatre is also a valuable educational resource, reaching thousands of children each season through its productions at Barter and Barter Stage II. Additionally, the Barter Players, the touring company of the theatre, travels to eight States each year performing at schools and community venues. Recently, Barter has created and implemented an innovative internet educational program which teaches students about artistic and technical theatrical elements using a Web-based interactive program available to classrooms across the region. This program exposes students to a side of a theatrical production that they might not have experienced otherwise.

I commend and congratulate the Barter Theatre for its contributions to our region and for

its many successes over the past 75 years. Passage of the resolution I have introduced commending the theater will be a fitting tribute to its many years of cultural contribution.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENT LOUDNESS MITIGATION ACT

#### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, most Americans are not overjoyed to watch television commercials, but they are willing to tolerate them to sustain free over-the-air television. What annoys all of us is the sudden increase of volume when commercials are aired.

While the FCC does not specifically regulate the volume of TV programs or TV commercials, broadcasters are required to have equipment that limits the peak power they can use to send out their audio and video signals. This means the loudest TV commercial can never be louder than the loudest part of any TV program.

A TV program has a mix of audio levels. There are loud parts and soft parts. Nuance is used to build the dramatic effect. Most advertisers don't want nuance. They want to grab our attention, and to do this, they record every part of it as loud as possible. The peak levels of commercials are no higher than the peak levels of program content, but those peaks are sustained for longer periods in commercials.

I've introduced the Commercial Advertisement Loudness Mitigation Act, CALM Act, to address the volume of commercials. The bill would mandate that the FCC within one year enact rules requiring that advertisements not be excessively noisy and that they must be at the same volume as the television programming they accompany.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this sensible bill.

#### RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF POLICE LIEUTENANT MONTY A. SHIPP FROM THE FAIRFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

#### HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Police Lieutenant Monty A. Shipp who faithfully served the residents of the cities of Fairfield and Concord since 1981.

Prior to becoming a police officer, Lieutenant Shipp served 4 years in the United States Air Force from December 1977 to December 1981. Upon receiving an honorable discharge with an Air Force Commendation Medal and a Good Conduct Medal, Lieutenant Shipp continued his service to his country and community by joining the Concord Police Department.

Lieutenant Shipp served with the Concord Police Department for 4 years before being hired by the Fairfield Police Department. He showed considerable talent and promise and was promoted to Police Sergeant on March 23, 1990. His contributions to the police department could be seen in a variety of ways



as he performed supervisor duties in patrol, training, and investigations.

Lieutenant Shipp continued to distinguish himself showing superb moral character and a commitment to helping his community through his role with SAFE Team from 1987 to 1999. His hard work with such a worthy cause is just one of many admirable and laudable accomplishments of Lieutenant Shipp's career.

Lieutenant Shipp's decades of service and endless hard work culminated in his being granted the prestigious Distinguished Service Medal in December of 2001.

His well deserved promotion to lieutenant occurred on July 9, 2004. As a lieutenant, he became a well known role model for the patrol officers and investigation detectives with whom he worked. Lieutenant Shipp's strong character and positive influence were evident every day he was on the force.

Lieutenant Shipp embodies so many of the qualities that make for the best police officers. He is a loyal representative of the law enforcement community and will always be remembered and admired for work ethic, dedication, and impact on our cities.

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A TRIBUTE TO STUART G.  
MOLDAW

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**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my good friend Stuart G. Moldaw who passed away at the age of 81 on Saturday, May 24, 2008. Stuart is survived by his beloved wife, Phyllis, daughters Carol and Susan Moldaw, and four grandchildren.

A native of Boston and the son of a Russian immigrant, Stuart enlisted in the Navy in 1944 before using the G.I. Bill to attend Syracuse University where he met his future wife, Phyllis Israelson of Portland, Maine. After graduating in 1949 with a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing and Economics, Stuart began his retail career at Le Bon Marche, a department store in Lowell, Massachusetts, and married Phyllis in 1950.

He then moved to California to work for another retailer, Lerner Shops, where he became a district manager and oversaw the opening of more than 20 Lerner stores, including ones in Oakland and the Stanford Shopping Center. In 1958, Stuart opened his first retail business, Country Casuals, in Palo Alto.

He also started Pic-a-Dilly, one of the country's earliest off-price apparel chains in 1973, and co-founded Athletic Shoe Factory in 1979, which featured national brands at discounted prices. Both chains were later sold. He also co-founded V.S. Venture Partners, a Mendo Park-based venture capital firm.

Stuart was a longtime Bay Area resident, pioneer entrepreneur and philanthropist who helped transform a small chain of local department stores into the Pleasanton-based retail giant Ross Dress for Less. Ross Stores Inc., acquired by Stuart in 1982, is a Fortune 500 company with \$6.1 billion in sales over the last 12 months, more than 900 stores in 27 states

and more than 40,000 employees. The original investors in the Ross venture included another Bay Area retail pioneer, Mervin G. Morris, the founder of Mervyn's, who had recently retired before becoming one of the Ross investors.

In a career that spanned more than a half-century, Stuart, a resident of Atherton, also helped launch several other retail ventures, including Sail Francisco-based Gymboree, a children's clothing retail chain launched in 1986. At the time of his death, Stuart was chairman emeritus of both Ross Stores and San Francisco-based Gymboree Corp.

Stuart Moldaw cared deeply about people and directed himself to make the world a better place. He was well-respected for his passion and commitment to improving the lives of those around him and was appointed by President Bill Clinton as a Public Delegate to the U.S. Mission at the United Nations in 1993 and as Chairman of the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars in 1996. In 2000, Governor Gray Davis appointed him to chair California's World Trade Commission, and 2 years later he was appointed to California's Little Hoover Commission. He also served on the boards of many Bay Area non-profits, including the Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula, the Palo Alto Medical Foundation, the Jewish Community Endowment Fund and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. He gave tirelessly of himself to his family, friends, colleagues and community and set the highest standard for others to follow.

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life and accomplishments of Stuart G. Moldaw. His decades of contributions to his community and his country stand as lasting legacies of a life lived well. How privileged I am to have known him, represented him and to have had him as my friend. America is better because of him.

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HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF BRIAN EMERICK

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**HON. VIRGINIA FOXX**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, one of my constituents Brian Emerick, paid me a visit last year to relate the story of his fight against ALS, or Lou Gehrig's disease. He left me with these words, "Future generations must not face this disease with no known cause or cure. For the Emerick family, the challenge to strike out Lou Gehrig's disease comes with the highest imaginable significance—to honor the lives of past generations who died of the disease like my father, to improve the well-being of individuals currently living with the disease like myself, and to protect the health of future generations, like my children."

On Easter Sunday of this year, Brian finished his courageous battle with ALS with the same dignity with which he lived his entire life. It is his life that we are here to honor and his commitment to finding a cure for this disease that we are here to remember and pursue. Brian's story represents great hope that helps move us toward action to defeat ALS.

Brian's life was not and can not be defined solely by his courageous fight against ALS,

because he lived a full life that touched many before and after his diagnoses. Brian worked his way through school and college and later flew helicopters in the U.S. Army. He then went on to become a respected worker and leader at Rock-Tenn Paper Corporation. Brian had a well-known work ethic and never missed a day of work because of sickness. He continued working after his diagnosis and even when he visited the ALS clinic at Baptist Hospital he would tell doctors, "I really don't get sick, I'm actually as healthy as anyone could be if it weren't for this disease that keeps slowing me down."

The man who was a loving husband was also an amazing father. The man who was a tireless worker was also loved and honored in his work, his community and his church. And finally, that man who did all of those wonderful things, was also the man who fought ALS with courage for the past 3 years.

Brian, who never liked to take so much as a Tylenol, eventually took 27 pills a day and participated in five different clinical drug studies to help fight that deadly disease. Brian, who tried never to ask people for help unless he absolutely needed it, raised more than \$25,000 in the last 2 years on ALS walks with his family and friends. Brian, who had never before been in a congressional meeting, tirelessly walked the halls of Congress to advocate on behalf of those suffering with this deadly disease.

Brian ended his remarkable life journey and began a final journey when he finished his battle with ALS on Easter Sunday of this year. But Brian would have reminded us today that the battle to defeat ALS is still ongoing. Brian's life story reminds us what it means to live each day with love and in pursuit of ideals that truly matter. We honor Brian's life by facing the challenge to defeat ALS, with honesty and commitment to action that improves the lives of others.

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MARY BAUMANN

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**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mary Baumann, of Savannah, Missouri. Mary recently retired as Andrew County Youth Program Assistant.

Mary Baumann began her dedicated service to the 4-H Program in 1976, after serving 15 years as secretary to the Andrew County Extension Council. Mary's leadership and teaching has helped many youths as they learned through programs sponsored by the 4-H program. Mrs. Baumann is well respected and recognized as a leader throughout the Northwest Missouri University Extension region.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Mary Baumann, whose dedication and service to the community has been truly outstanding. I commend Mary on an exceptional career, and I am honored to serve her in the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT  
OF POLICE OFFICER ROBERT  
LOWN FROM THE FAIRFIELD PO-  
LICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Police Officer Robert Lown, who faithfully served the city of Fairfield for over 35 years.

Officer Lown began his distinguished career with the Fairfield Police Department on August 1, 1969. During that time, he worked a variety of assignments including patrol and investigation. His work as a committed robbery and burglary investigator from 1988 to 2005 led to the solving of many cases, to the benefit of the entire community. The skills Officer Lown possessed in this field were second to none in the department.

Officer Lown's experience and dedication as an investigator earned him a Distinguished Service Award in June 1999.

His commitment to law enforcement and investigation will always be remembered and admired by the Fairfield community for his work ethic, dedication, and impact on our cities.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS  
OF CAPTAIN CHARLES L.  
STUPPARD FOR HIS OUT-  
STANDING TOUR OF DUTY IN  
THE WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Captain Charles L. Stuppard, United States Navy for his outstanding tour of duty in the war in the Middle East. As of today, he is completing one full year of military service as the Commander of Task Group 56.6 based in Kuwait. Over the past 12 months, Captain Stuppard supported over 10,000 individual sailors during their deployment in Kuwait, Iraq, or Afghanistan. He supervised in-processing for over 17,000 Navy, Air Force, and Department of Defense civilian personnel as they are deployed to the Middle East. Captain Stuppard visited many forward deployed forces throughout Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa.

Captain Stuppard Task Group coordinated the training of over 3,000 sailors in High Mobility Multi-Purpose Wheeled Vehicles Egress, Tactical Movement, Counter and Close Quarters Marksmanship in order to meet current requirements. Such training ensured that deploying sailors have the most up-to-date information on the current situation, particularly in a desert environment. Captain Stuppard fought tirelessly to acquire up-to-date armored vehicles for use by sailors traveling outside of the protected areas. Such action had a direct and positive impact on the level of protection given to the sailors from improved explosive devices, rocket propelled grenade, mines, and small arms fire. Consequently, he enhanced the sailors' war fighting capabilities and survivability as forward deployed units.

Captain Stuppard graduated from Cornell University in 1982 with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical and aerospace engineering. In 1998, Captain Stuppard obtained his master's degree in national security and strategic studies at the Naval War College in Newport, RI. He is currently a doctoral student at Salve Regina University in Newport, RI.

Captain Stuppard's accomplishments and achievements are truly outstanding and serve as an example to all citizens throughout our country, the United States of America. Captain Stuppard is a true gentleman and an outstanding American. I congratulate Captain Charles L. Stuppard for a job well done while serving in the Middle East.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF  
CLYDE SMYTH

**HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. McKEON. Madam Speaker, it is a great privilege for me to rise today to recognize the contributions of Clyde Smyth, a member of my staff since 1994. Clyde has generously served the United States and the Santa Clarita community over the years by identifying worthy students in the 25th Congressional District of California for appointment to the military academies. After years of offering his leadership and expertise and effecting change throughout the district, it is a great pleasure to recognize Mr. Smyth on the occasion of his retirement.

Clyde's story is one of absolute service at every turn. He is a man of honor and integrity who has given of himself for the betterment of those around him. Clyde first came to the Santa Clarita Valley in 1969 to serve as principal of Placerita Junior High and later served the William S. Hart High School district as superintendent from 1974 until 1992. He is a true American hero who also served in the United States Army during the Korean war. After our community of Santa Clarita incorporated, Clyde was elected to the city council in 1994 where he served with honor for 4 years and as mayor for a year.

Clyde Smyth has instilled strong core values and the desire to give back in his family as well as in his community. He is an example for his sons and also for all those who meet him. To know Clyde is to be inspired to be a better person. While Clyde is retiring from his current position on my staff, I am certain that he is not done working. I know Clyde as a man who, through his words and deeds, has demonstrated his desire to lend a helping hand, and I can't imagine that retirement would change that.

On behalf of myself and the many young men and women who have been helped directly by his work, I offer sincere gratitude to Mr. Clyde Smyth and wish him and his wife Sue all the best in his retirement years.

TRIBUTE TO SHEILA MARY  
SULLIVAN PETERSON

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Sheila Mary Sullivan Peterson who passed away on May 22, 2008 in her home in Menlo Park, California. She leaves behind her beloved husband Ronald C. Peterson and her children, Molly, Kathleen, and Michael.

The eldest daughter of justice Raymond L. Sullivan and Winifred Carreras Sullivan of San Francisco, Sheila dedicated her life to education and the improvement of the lives of others. A former trustee of Sacred Heart Schools in Atherton and a recipient of the St. Madeline Sophie Award for service to the schools, she was a blue-ribbon graduate of the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Atherton and a graduate of Lone Mountain, the San Francisco College for Women. She taught at Winfield Scott and Alamo schools in San Francisco and was a member of the Catholic Community at Stanford.

In addition to all those who loved her in the community and in the classrooms, she was the beloved sister of R. Lawrence Sullivan, Jr., Philip Sullivan, Mary Ward, and Mother Agnes of the Cross O.C.D. (Patricia Sullivan), a wonderful sister-in-law and aunt to numerous Peters, Sullivans, and Wards; a close cousin to members of the Wade, Carreras, and Sullivan families.

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Sheila Mary Sullivan Peterson and extend our sympathy to her family. Through her many contributions to her family, friends, students, and community she has left a lasting legacy of love, faith, and mentorship which will never be forgotten and which will live forever in all of us blessed to have known her. She graced our lives and our community, made our country better and now enhances the heavens with her presence.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 3021, 21ST CENTURY  
GREEN HIGH-PERFORMANCE  
PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. VIRGINIA FOXX**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2008*

Ms. FOXX. Madam Chairman, as a member of the Education and Labor Committee I would like to address an issue of concern with H.R. 3021, the 21st Century Green High-Performing Public School Facilities Act. Specifically, I bring to my colleagues' attention the fact that one of our Nation's most sustainable, renewable, and environmentally positive industries may be unfairly disadvantaged in the legislation that came before the House, June 4, 2008. The U.S. hardwood industry, which is prevalent in my own North Carolina district, but also extends 13,959 total facilities throughout the country, may not be adequately recognized by any of the requirements we are putting into law for our Nation's schools. It would



be a travesty to have our prized native hardwoods effectively removed from new building projects only to be substituted with materials from foreign sources or less suitable alternative materials, often at higher costs.

The United States Government is required under Federal law to undertake a nationwide inventory of forest resources. The most recent inventory published in 2007 by the U.S. Forest Service and referred to as the "RPA Assessment," shows that hardwood growth has consistently exceeded harvest for the last 50 years. Between 1953 and 2007, the volume of U.S. hardwood growing stock has more than doubled. This solid growth in America's hardwood resource, coupled with the forest laws in the United States, provide strong evidence of good governance and efficient forest regulations.

Specifically, I would ask that any green building standard required by H.R. 3021 give adequate consideration to a number of criteria:

First, forest certification requirements included in green building standards still have very low participation amongst U.S. hardwood family forest owners. The vast majority of American hardwoods are grown in the eastern United States, where around 73 percent of hardwood forest land is privately owned by families whose ownership stretches back several generations. There are approximately 4 million private forest owners in the U.S. with an average parcel of land 50 acres in size which may be harvested only a few times in any generation of owners. When considering green building legislation, I would ask that the record reflect that we recognize the environmental credentials of American hardwoods in addition to any specific green building standards.

Second, a typical American hardwood mill buys timber from approximately 1,800 forest owners in a single year. Those set of forest owners can differ completely from year to year. The certification requirements that are referenced in H.R. 3021 do not adequately address the challenges hardwood manufacturers face when working with thousands of owners to in effect "prove" the origin of the wood. It is understandable that finding certified hardwood is difficult at best. Any green building legislation should not discriminate against this proven renewable and viable resource in the United States on the basis of certification challenges.

Lastly, any geographical limitations should be broad enough to allow U.S. products manufactured in one vicinity to be used in another part of the country. I am proud of the many Fifth District constituents who make products such as flooring and wood trim for projects throughout the world. Eastern or Midwestern manufacturers should not be prohibited from supplying their West Coast markets, nor vice versa, due to arbitrary geographical limitations put in place by green building requirements. Hardwoods are a natural product and cannot suddenly be produced in the proximity of the target market.

It is my understanding that efforts are underway to assure that hardwoods are given full consideration in green building standards. As we consider mandating these requirements I urge that full consideration be given to these needed adjustments and that no new school construction project be forced to ignore one of our vital, beautiful, environmentally beneficial, and native material such as hardwoods.

DR. JIM SCANLON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dr. Jim Scanlon, of St. Joseph, Missouri. Dr. Scanlon, who has served as President of Missouri Western State University since 2001, will be retiring at the end of June following a distinguished 30-year career devoted to students in higher education. Dr. Scanlon has been a great visionary for Missouri Western State University and a fine leader in building the University's vision for the future.

Dr. Scanlon leaves behind a number of accomplishments. Under his leadership, Missouri Western attained University status and added new master's programs in applied sciences and applied arts. During his tenure three new buildings were added to the campus, one building currently under construction, one building renovation and addition in the planning stages, a new university plaza and several remodeled campus spaces for students. Dr. Scanlon has also championed a regional university plan, focusing Western's resources for both the good of the student as well as the community and region.

Dr. Scanlon came to St. Joseph and Missouri Western around the time I was first elected to Congress. I have had the wonderful opportunity to work with Dr. Scanlon on a number of occasions, and I can attest to his honesty, integrity, and vision. I know Dr. Scanlon's leadership will truly be missed, but I am very thankful for the time we were able to share together, and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Dr. Jim Scanlon, a true visionary and tremendous leader who dedicated his career to higher education. I commend Dr. Scanlon on an exceptional career, and I am honored to serve him in the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT  
OF POLICE CAPTAIN THOMAS G.  
GIUGNI FROM THE FAIRFIELD  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2008

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Police Captain Thomas G. Giugni, who faithfully served the residents of the cities of Walnut Creek and Fairfield since 1978.

Prior to becoming a police officer, Captain Giugni served as a civilian communications dispatcher and clerk for the City of Fairfield. Captain Giugni went on to work for the Walnut Creek Police Department in 1978.

Captain Giugni served with the Walnut Creek Police Department for 9 years before returning to work with the Fairfield Police Department. His work and dedication in patrol and investigations allowed Captain Giugni to become a field training officer in 1993. His contributions, as well as his promise, led to his promotion to police sergeant on January 20, 1995.

Captain Giugni continued to serve as a positive role model for his fellow officers in patrol and investigations leading to his promotion to police lieutenant on June 30, 2000. His leadership success in this position led to Giugni's promotion to police captain on May 3, 2002.

Captain Giugni's 31 years of law enforcement service exemplify the many qualities of great police officers. He is a loyal representative of the law enforcement community and leader for both sworn and civilian employees and he will always be remembered and admired for his hard work, dedication and impact on our cities.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS  
AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF  
STEPHEN BARR DURING HIS  
TENURE AS AN EDITOR AND RE-  
PORTER

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the significant contributions of Stephen Barr, noted columnist and journalist that paved the way for today's journalistic generation.

Throughout his career at the Washington Post Stephen Barr has served as an anchor to both the columnist writing community and the avid readers of the newspaper. During his 20 years at the Washington Post he has worked as an editor and reporter serving in the Metro News, Style, National News, and the Column departments of the newspaper.

In May 2000, he was selected as the Federal Diary Columnist after serving 7 years as a national staff writer covering Federal management and personnel issues, "reinventing government," the U.S. Postal Service, veterans' affairs, the congressional appropriations process, and government technology challenges, including the widely known Year 2000 computer glitch.

Steve Barr was born and raised in Nocona, Texas, a 1967 graduate of Nocona High School and a 1971 graduate of the University of Texas at Austin where he received his bachelor's degree in journalism. He also served 2 years in the U.S. Army, including one year with the 1st Infantry Division in Vietnam.

With deep appreciation and admiration for his continued service, I thank Mr. Stephen Barr and wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO HONOR "GOLDEN  
CIRCLE DAY"

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2008

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bethany Baptist Church of Brooklyn, its Pastor Dr. David A. Hampton, first lady Hope Hampton and its congregants in honor of "Golden Circle Day."

Dr. David A. Hampton is the tenth Pastor-elect of Bethany Baptist Church. Hailing from

Indianapolis, Indiana, he is a former scholar from Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, where he graduated Summa Cum laude. As described by his congregants, Pastor Hampton is a dynamic speaker who can reach and encourage persons of all ages. As indicated by his receipt of numerous awards, including the Martin Luther King Human Rights Award, Pastor Hampton demonstrates immense dedication and service to his congregants and the Brooklyn community. He has also been acknowledged by the Center of Leadership Development for his outstanding leadership skills.

Pastor Hampton is fortunate to have a warm-hearted congregation composed of avid Baptists. With his congregants' strong faith and his infallible ability to deliver inspiring messages, Pastor Hampton has encouraged members of Bethany Baptist to continue in their faith and service to their community, which establishes Bethany Baptist as an invaluable community resource. As such, the commitments of Bethany Baptist Church and its congregants transcend their faith and is deserving of due recognition.

Further, the members of Bethany Baptist Church demonstrate devotion to their faith, which is visible in their undying commitment to remaining active members of the church for over 50 years. In an effort to commemorate their contributions, the church has planned "Golden Circle Day," which is dedicated to honoring those who are a part of the esteemed "Golden Circle." This is a tradition that many look forward to because it offers a chance to pay homage to members of the Bethany Baptist Church family. In keeping with the traditions, there will be a host of special services slated for June 8, 2008 at Bethany Baptist Church, located at 460 Marcus Garvey Boulevard in Brooklyn, New York.

The following members are duly recognized as members of Bethany Baptist Church's "Golden Circle."

Marian Alexander; Annie Anderson; Charles Allen; Margaret Allen; Norma Applewhite; Virgie Baldwin; Bettie Barbour; Louise Barton; Linda Bascombe; and Patricia Belk.

Gaither Bellamy; Josephine Blaizes; Daisy L. Bryant; Essie M. Brooks; Helen Brown; Mabel Burroughs; Phyllis M. Bynum; Mary Carpenter; and Edith L. Carson.

Pearl Clarke; Wilbert Clarke; Adeline Clinton; Darnley Crichtlow; Barbara D. Crosby; Lynda F. Dandridge; Louise Daniels; Gladys C. Drake; Willie Edmond; and Ozie Edmond.

Gloria Ellis; Tommy Felton; Helen Fierce; Ethel M. Folk; Frances Ford; Frances Frayer; Maurice L. Fredericks; Winifred Fredericks; Jusselyn James Gittens; Hyacinth Golden; and Fredrick Gordon.

Katie Graham; Bernice Graves; Iris Hall; Elizabeth Halyard; Malcolm Halyard; Richard Harris, Sr.; Shirley Harris; Miriam C. Hassell; Helen Hill; and Marcia Hill.

Alberta Holt; Willie Holt; Annie Hubbard; Inez B. Hunt; J. Frank Hunt; Thomas O. Irby; Amanda M. Jackson; Daniel Jackson; Donza James-Frasier; and Jusselyn James-Gittens.

Mabel Jenkins; Joyce E. Jiggetts; Eddie Johnson; Girlene Johnson; Alberta Jones; Delores C. Jones; Evelyn P. Jones; Margaret Jones-Chaplin; Kay B. Jordan; and Betty Keith.

Rosa M. Key; Mabel Kellogg; Florence O. King; Ronald King; Harriet H. Kinebrew; Wade N. Lassiter; Lillie B. Lawrence; Jaynette

Lawson-Jordan; Juanita Lewis; and Lauriano Green.

Priscilla Lucas; Evelyn J. Lymus; Fannie Marcus; Joseph F. Mariner; Willie Belle Mariner; Norva T. S. Matthews; Clarence McDonald; Joseph H. McDowere; Frances McDuffie; and Eleanor McIntosh.

Ruth McKie; Mona McLaughlin; Emma Miller; Arnold Neckles; Molly Neckles; Netty Brown-Nembhard; Oswald Nembhard; Jacqueline Norris; Dorothy Odle; Herbert Oestricher; and Sidney Oestricher.

Jeff Palmer; Bertha Patton; Mildred Peoples; Jasper E. Peyton; Mildred D. Pittman; Alfred Porter; Fannie Porter; Benjamin Pugh; and Earnest Randolph.

Evelyn Randolph; Juanita Randolph; Leona Rhodes; Mary Alice Ridley; Dorothy Rudisel; Rosa Sawyer; Helen Seaberry; Alberta Scott; Janet Small; and Kittie Snead.

Esther Smith; Dorothy Spain; Hazel R. Speer; Sadie Stewart; Marie Sullivan; Gertrude Sumter; Mamie R. Thomas; Lula Turner; Eleanor Warren; and Josephine Washington.

Frances Watkins; Virgie Whitaker; Doris Williams; Julia Williams; Teesdale P. Wilson; Jacqueline Winstead; Patricia Wynn; and Ernest Wynn.

#### HONORING REVEREND DR. REGINALD FLYNN

#### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to day to honor Reverend Dr. Reginald Flynn as he is installed as the new pastor of Foss Avenue Baptist Church. The Installation Service will take place on Sunday, June 22nd, in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Reverend Dr. Flynn was raised in the Flint area, graduating from Beecher High School in 1984. He attended Kalamazoo Valley Community College and served in the United States Navy. After receiving his honorable discharge he relocated to Columbia SC. He received his bachelor of arts degree in political science from the University of South Carolina. He was the executive assistant at the United Way of South Carolina. He was picked by the South Carolina Department of Social Services and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to coordinate a statewide faith-based foster care and adoption program called South Carolina Families for Kids and he went on to become the recruitment director of the adoption advocacy program, One Church, One Child of South Carolina. He went on to work for IAP Worldwide Services, an international emergency management firm, and for Merck and Company. He is the founder and president of CourTay Properties, LLC, a real estate investment company.

Pastor Flynn received his license to preach the gospel from Reverend Dr. Charles B. Jackson, Sr., at Brookland Baptist Church in Columbia and earned his master of divinity degree from Erskine Theological Seminary. He was ordained by the Gethsemane Baptist Association and has completed pastoral assignments at Beulah Baptist Church, and Temple Zion Baptist Church. He was elected by his colleagues to serve as vice president and principal training instructor for the Mt. Hebron Progressive Association's Congress of Christian

Education. He has also served as the adjunct professor of religious studies at Benedict College. In December 2008 he will receive his doctor of ministry degree in pastoral leadership and Urban Studies from Columbia International University, graduating with honors. Married to First Lady Deloris Flynn, the couple has two children, Courtney and Taylor.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Reverend Dr. Reginald Flynn as he is installed as pastor of Foss Avenue Baptist Church. The sacred and solemn Installation Service is the joining of a pastor and congregation to fulfill God's holy will. May Pastor Flynn and Foss Avenue Baptist Church serve Our Lord, Jesus Christ, for many, many years to come.

#### RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF POLICE LIEUTENANT MICHAEL L. HILL FROM THE FAIR- FIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

#### HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Police Lieutenant Michael L. Hill who faithfully served the residents of the cities of Los Angeles and Fairfield for 36 years.

Prior to becoming a police officer, Lieutenant Hill served as a sleeper fireman with the City of Fairfield beginning in 1974. He worked in various civilian positions for the city before becoming a sworn police officer on September 10, 1979. Lieutenant Hill began his work with the Los Angeles Police Department in April 1982, before returning to the Fairfield Police Department in May 1985.

Lieutenant Hill continued to demonstrate loyalty and dedication to the department earning his promotion to Police Sergeant on August 26, 1988. He served as an inspirational leader for the personnel in Patrol, Investigations, Training and the Professional Standards Unit. His commitment to this position resulted in his being named Manager of the Year for 1996.

His years of service and leadership led to his promotion to Acting Police Lieutenant on May 3, 2002 and then to his formal appointment as Police Lieutenant on October 18, 2002.

Lieutenant Hill will always be remembered and admired for his commitment to the community as well as his dedication as a leader. He is a loyal representative of the law and has made a lasting, positive impact on our cities.

#### THE ABILITYONE PROGRAM

#### HON. PAUL C. BROWN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, unemployment among people with disabilities is a serious matter and one that is all too often overlooked. Many Americans do not know the depth of this crisis—only 35 percent of people with disabilities are able to find jobs. Those people with disabilities who are not as fortunate are left to grapple with numerous obstacles to work and are often not provided the

opportunity to become independent, self-sufficient wage earners.

For almost all Americans, employment focuses on ability. But for people with disabilities, it is often the disability that takes precedence. We all have abilities and as responsible citizens, it is our imperative to apply them for the greater good. When all Americans work, communities will benefit as people with disabilities become self-sufficient, tax-paying citizens. I commend people with disabilities for their tireless efforts to share their abilities in the American workplace despite barriers, and hope that someday the high unemployment rate will be a thing of the past.

I am proud to support a program that helps us reach the goal of employment for all: the AbilityOne Program. The AbilityOne Program provides much-needed employment opportunities by using the purchasing power of the Federal Government to buy products and services from participating community-based nonprofit agencies that are dedicated to training and employing individuals with disabilities. In this program, people who are blind or who have other severe disabilities have the opportunity to acquire job skills and training, receive good wages and benefits and gain greater independence and quality of life.

In the United States, the program serves nearly 38,000 people with disabilities and generated approximately \$369 million in wages earned and \$1.6 billion in products sold. In Georgia alone, over 900 people with disabilities earned \$8.7 million in wages last year as a result of AbilityOne. I am proud that Georgia's 10th congressional district is home to brand-new AbilityOne contract at the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center. The Honorable Charlie was an AbilityOne Congressional Champion during his years in office and I am proud to carry on his tradition of supporting people with disabilities and the fine work they do.

It is with great pleasure that I extend my support to the AbilityOne Program, its supporters, and its workers for making a difference in unemployment among people with disabilities in this country.

REGARDING THE LAND USE RESTRICTION PROVISION OF H.R. 2963, THE PECHANGA LAND TRANSFER BILL

**HON. DARRELL E. ISSA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on an important piece of legislation that I have authored, H.R. 2963, The Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians Land Transfer Act of 2007. This legislation will place 1,178 acres of land currently maintained by the Bureau of Land Management, BLM, into trust for the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians to manage and maintain. These lands are part of the Pechanga tribe's ancestral lands and contain numerous cultural, historical, and religious elements of importance to them.

Specifically, I want to discuss Section 2(h) of the bill, which is entitled "Restricted Use of Transferred Lands."

(h) RESTRICTED USE OF TRANSFERRED LANDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The lands transferred under subsection (a) may be used only for the protection, preservation, and maintenance of the archaeological, cultural, and wildlife resources thereon.

(2) NO ROADS.—There shall be no roads other than for maintenance purposes constructed on the lands transferred under subsection (a).

When the restrictive language in this section was initially added to H.R. 4908, the original version of the bill I introduced in the 108th Congress, it was at the request of former House Resources Committee Chairman Richard Pombo. It was added during the markup of the bill on September 22, 2004, with the purpose of ensuring that no commercial, casino or gaming related development would take place on the lands designated for transfer within the bill, and that those lands would be maintained as open space for the preservation, protection, and maintenance of the archaeological, cultural and wildlife resources thereon. The development restrictions were added with the assent of representatives of the Pechanga tribal government and myself as author of the legislation.

Since I reintroduced this bill in the 110th Congress, my intent for this section has not changed. In fact, development restrictions within the bill were strengthened further with the addition of a prohibition of the construction of any roads upon the transferred land other than for the purpose of maintenance of archaeological, cultural and wildlife resources.

It is my intention as the author of H.R. 2963 that the legislation prohibit commercial, casino or gaming related construction or development on the lands designated in this bill, and that they be preserved as open space. I believe that the restrictions on the use of transferred lands included in this bill are a clear expression of this intent. Additionally, I have conferred with the Solicitor General's Office of the Department of the Interior who state that the wording of Section 2(h) implements this intent and the land use restrictions are enforceable by the Department of the Interior.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF POLICE OFFICER ANDREW CROSS FROM THE FAIRFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Police Officer Andrew Cross who faithfully served in the California police force since 1980.

Officer Cross's service to our community began when he joined the Seaside Police Department in January 1980. From there, he transitioned to the Monterey Police Department. After 18 years of service to Monterey, Officer Cross came to the Fairfield Police Department in December 2000.

During his time with the Fairfield Police Department, Officer Cross served as a highly regarded active patrol officer.

Officer Cross's commitment to his community was evident on a daily basis. He was a loyal representative of the law enforcement community, admired for his hard work and dedication, and his presence will be missed.

HONORING MR. AUSTIN SIMON

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Mr. Austin Simon. A pioneer and man of great distinction, Mr. Simon was the first African-American Postmaster in the 9th Congressional District. We lost our beloved Austin Simon on May 5, 2008. Known as "Si" to his loved ones, Mr. Simon lived a full and vibrant 81 years, and although his presence will be sorely missed among his family and friends, his legacy will continue far into the future.

Austin Simon was born in 1926 in Lake Charles, Louisiana, to Seymour and Mary Simon. Mr. Simon was a retired M.S.C. Postmaster in the Bay Area and was the first African-American to head both the Richmond and Oakland, California offices. The sheer substance of such an incredible life accomplishment attests to Mr. Austin's vitality and energy. He experienced firsthand some of the most important and dynamic moments in the struggles of African-Americans in our country throughout the last century. Mr. Austin was indeed on the frontlines of history, breaking the glass ceiling for generations of African-Americans pursuing careers in the United States Post Office.

In addition to a distinguished career in the postal service, Mr. Simon served his country in the United States Army during World War II. In his community, Mr. Simon participated as an active and committed Mason for more than 50 years and served as the Honorary Grand Master of the Hiram of Tyree Grand Lodge of California. He was also a member of the Stars of Love No. 22 Order of the Eastern Star for 50 years.

Even in his retirement, Mr. Simon was incredibly energetic and proved to be an inspiring role-model throughout his life. Mr. Simon knew the importance of community stewardship and creating lasting relationships with his fellow man. After moving to Las Vegas in 1996, Mr. Simon was quick to become engaged in his new community and search out new ways to contribute to society. In Las Vegas, Mr. Simon became a member of the Alpha Lodge No. 75, which he helped establish into a reputable and impressive organization. He led his fellow Alpha Lodge No. 75 members, dedicating his time and efforts as District Deputy Grand Master.

It is obvious that Mr. Simon's lifelong profession was to help others achieve their dreams and accomplish their goals. A dedicated family man, Mr. Simon balanced his personal, professional, and political dedications so that all who were fortunate enough to know this great man could benefit from his compassion and warmth.

A pillar of strength and historic figure in our community, Mr. Simon will be sorely missed. However, we are thankful for the opportunities he gave us to come together and celebrate the hope and love in our lives. As we say goodbye to him, we have been given yet another opportunity to reflect on the rich past of the African-American community and the tumultuous American century which defined our heritage, diligence, and hopes for the future.

Austin Simon's legacy will surely live on through all who knew him, and all who know

of his great accomplishments. Today, California's 9th Congressional District salutes and honors Mr. Austin Simon. We extend our deepest condolences to his family, especially his wife of 39 years, Mrs. Bertha L. Simon, his daughter Linda Duhon, and his sons Austin Jr., Ricky, Anthony, Aaron, Christopher, Marcus, Gregory, Cedric, and Kevin. His legacy will live on through his siblings, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nephews, nieces, godchildren, in-laws, and loving friends. May his soul rest in peace.

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IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM "BILL"  
EDWARDS

**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my dear friend William "Bill" Edwards of Hot Springs, Arkansas, who passed away June 1, 2008, at the age of 79.

I will forever remember Bill Edwards as a good friend, a devoted public servant and someone who cared deeply about improving the quality of life in Hot Springs and Garland County Arkansas. As a natural born leader, he excelled at every task he took on and was an inspiration to all of us who knew him.

Bill Edwards served the people of Hot Springs as Alderman and City Director for more than 35 years, however, most people just knew him as a caring friend. He was one of those rare individuals who never forgot the importance of maintaining a high degree of customer service to ensure that all those he worked with over the years were in good hands. From his very first day on the job working for the people of Hot Springs and Garland County, his number one priority was always the person he was talking with, and he would not stop working until he had exhausted every possibility to help out that individual.

Bill Edwards's leadership in Hot Springs was guided by his dedication to the city and to all of those who work and reside in our beloved state. I truly believe the Hot Springs Sentinel Record, the local paper which covered him over the years, said it best in their editorial on June 3, 2008, by stating, "It is not an exaggeration to say that this director had a 'heart for Hot Springs.'" Whether it was helping a constituent, promoting tourism in the city, or simply putting a big smile on a friend's face, he knew only one way to do it—with a big heart.

Bill Edwards will always be known for his outstanding service to Hot Springs and the surrounding communities. I extend my deepest condolences to his two daughters, Brenda Deaton of Texarkana, Texas, and Laura Rivera of Leander, Texas; his two sisters, Margaret Bennett of Hot Springs, Arkansas, and Martha Young of Hot Springs, Arkansas; his three brothers Jimmy Edwards, Charles Edwards and Mike Edwards, all of Hot Springs, Arkansas; and to his nieces, nephews, and numerous friends. Bill Edwards will be greatly missed in Hot Springs, and I am truly saddened by this loss.

THE SPARTANS ARE SOFTBALL  
CHAMPIONS

**HON. HOWARD COBLE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we wish to congratulate the girls' softball team of Central Davidson High School for winning the North Carolina 2-A championship. The Spartans won the title on Saturday, May 31. The team was led by seniors Allison Barnak, Lindsay Thore, Hannah Buie, Alison Lohr, and Gina Antonucci, who were an integral part of back-to-back championships along with a 54-game winning streak.

This year's title, which was won at the Walnut Creek Softball Complex in Raleigh, culminated an outstanding season for the Spartans, who were led by Head Coach Gene Poindexter. Not only did they win a State championship, the Spartans finished the year ranked 8th in a national poll of high school softball teams.

The championship contest began and ended quickly. Chelsea Leonard led the way, pitching a one-hit shutout to lead the Spartans to a 7-0 win against formidable South Lenior. The team was led with 2 hits each from Kara Lohr, Whitney Lohr, Hannah Buie, and Nicole Perry.

While there were many strong efforts, the championship win was a team effort including juniors Carrie Jernigan, and Chelsea Leonard, sophomores Leanna Hildebrand, Whitney Lohr, Haley Hanes, Nicole Perry, Laura Fritts, Emily Mills, Mindi Morris, and Haley Thore, along with freshmen Kara Lohr and Emma Comer. And just as important as the players on the field were the leaders off the field. We would like to recognize, head coach Gene Poindexter and his able assistants Jim Welborn, Bryan Starnes, Greg Leonard, Sterling Charles, Steve Hayes, Mike Pickett, Jordan Stogner, Brittney Taylor, and Richard Cid.

Also assisting the team during this incredible season were scorekeeper Ernie Antonucci, public announcer Stewart Koonts, as well as team managers Chris Keel and Brandon Gilchrist.

Again, on behalf of the Sixth District, we would like to congratulate Principal Emily Lipe, Athletic Director and Head Coach Gene Poindexter and everyone affiliated with the Central Davidson Spartans on having another great season and for winning the North Carolina 2-A softball championship for the second year in a row.

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TRIBUTE TO ANNE LOMEDICO

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, Anne LoMedico has reached the ranks of the growing number of centenarians in the United States. As she reaches 100 years, on July 26, 2008, she can look back with pride. Anne has lived through the most prolific era in world history.

Anne was born in our very own Bronx, New York. She is a mother of two, grandmother of 7, great-grandmother of 16, and great-great grandmother of 9.

She is a hard worker who isn't afraid to say what's on her mind. From the age of 18 to 67 Anne worked at a bookbinder company. She entered the field as a machine operator and in no time worked her way to a supervisory position. Anne was never one to sit and wait for things to happen. She took initiative and in by doing so, as a union delegate she was once honored with a gold pin from the Bookbinder Union.

Anne is a very active member of her Senior Club at the Nyack Senior Center; she raised the most money out of anyone in the 2007 Walkathon fundraiser. She can also be accredited for helping women in her community who have recently been widowed, get out of the house and into the center of life.

Anne attributes her long life to her strong faith in God, the fact that she believes in eating right, exercising, and not smoking. Before she started driving, Anne would walk from the West Side of Manhattan to the East Side twice a day to go to work. She has watched her children grown and has seen the world change. We thank God for allowing Ms. LoMedico to remain with us and share her years of experience with us all.

I offer her my sincere wishes for the happiest of birthdays and congratulate her for a long and successful life.

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RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT  
OF POLICE SERGEANT TIMOTHY  
P. GRACE FROM THE FAIRFIELD  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Police Sergeant Timothy P. Grace who faithfully served the residents of the city of Fairfield for 31 years.

Sergeant Grace began his service with the Fairfield Police Department on September 27, 1975, where he worked in several capacities including drunk driving enforcement grants, the traffic unit, patrol, investigations and the training and communications unit. Sergeant Grace continued to serve as a defensive tactics instructor as well as a field training officer.

Sergeant Grace earned his well-deserved promotion to the position of police sergeant in 2000. He worked as a valiant leader in both the patrol and the professional standards unit, where his dedication to these units made a valuable impact on the operations of the overall department.

Sergeant Grace evidenced a commitment to his community on a daily basis. He served as a loyal representative of the law and is admired by his community for his hard work, dedication and positive influence on the entire department.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, June 10, 2008 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## JUNE 11

9:30 a.m.

## Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine sovereign wealth funds, focusing on foreign policy consequences in an era of new money.

SD-419

10 a.m.

## Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine short-change for consumers and short-shrift for Congress, focusing on the Supreme Court's treatment of laws that protect Americans health, safety, jobs, and retirement.

SD-226

2 p.m.

## Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Paul G. Gardephe, and Cathy Seibel, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Kiyo A. Matsumoto, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, and Glenn T. Suddaby, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York.

SD-226

3 p.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the impact and policy implications of spyware on consumers and businesses.

SR-253

## JUNE 12

10 a.m.

## Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the condition of our nation's infrastructure, focusing on perspectives from our nation's mayors.

SD-538

## Finance

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the United States Trade Preference programs.

SD-215

## Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 2979, to exempt the African National Congress

from treatment as a terrorist organization, H.R. 5690, to remove the African National Congress from treatment as a terrorist organization for certain acts or events, provide relief for certain members of the African National Congress regarding admissibility, S. 2892, to promote the prosecution and enforcement of frauds against the United States by suspending the statute of limitations during times when Congress has authorized the use of military force, H.R. 3480, to direct the United States Sentencing Commission to assure appropriate punishment enhancements for those involved in receiving stolen property where that property consists of grave markers of veterans, S. 1211, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide enhanced penalties for marketing controlled substances to minors, S. Res. 576, designating August 2008 as "Digital Television Transition Awareness Month", and the nominations of Helene N. White, of Michigan, and Raymond M. Kethledge, of Michigan, each to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, and Stephen Joseph Murphy III, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

SD-226

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine supply chain security, focusing on the secure freight initiative and the implementation of 100 percent scanning.

SR-253

## Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the future costs of funding the war in Iraq.

SD-106

2:15 p.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the relationship between United States fuels policy and food prices.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

## Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine addressing the United States-Pakistan strategic relationship.

SD-342

## Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine energy from Central Asia to Europe, focusing on oil, oligarchs, and opportunity.

SD-419

## JUNE 17

9:30 a.m.

## Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the origins of aggressive interrogation techniques, focusing on Part I of the Committee's inquiry into the treatment of detainees in U.S. custody.

SD-106

2:30 p.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

## National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 1774, to designate the John Krebs Wilderness in the State of California, to add certain land to the Sequoia-Kings Canyon Na-

tional Park Wilderness, S. 2255, to amend the National Trails System Act to provide for studies of the Chisholm Trail and Great Western Trail to determine whether to add the trails to the National Trails System, S. 2359, to establish the St. Augustine 450th Commemoration Commission, S. 2943, to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, S. 3017, to designate the Beaver Basin Wilderness at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in the State of Michigan, S. 3010, to reauthorize the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program, S. 3045, to establish the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Forest Heritage Area in the State of Alaska, H.R. 1143, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands in Virgin Islands National Park, and S. 3096, to amend the National Cave and Karst Research Institute Act of 1998 to authorize appropriations for the National Cave and Karst Research Institute.

SD-366

## JUNE 18

10 a.m.

## Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine improving energy efficiency, focusing on increasing the use of renewable sources of energy, and reducing the carbon footprint of the Capitol complex.

SR-301

2 p.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the preparedness of federal land management agencies for the 2008 wildfire season.

SD-366

## JUNE 19

10 a.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine cruise ship safety, focusing on potential steps for keeping Americans safe at sea.

SR-253

## JUNE 24

10:30 a.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine climate change impacts on the transportation sector.

SR-253

## JUNE 26

9:30 a.m.

## Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to markup pending calendar business.

SR-418

## POSTPONEMENTS

## JUNE 11

9:30 a.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Interstate Commerce, Trade, and Tourism Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine imbalance in the United States-Korea automobile trade.

SR-253